

EAST REGION

Ohio Community Action Training Organization (OCATO)

For questions please contact your regional Ohio Compassion Capital Project Director

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The Ohio Community Action Training Organization (OCATO) has a statewide network of 52 agencies. These agencies combined have a 33-year history of working in collaboration at the local level. OCATO is the sister organization of the Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies, developed in 1971. OCATO provides technical assistance and training for the 52 Community Action Agencies that cover all 88 counties in Ohio. Last year, Ohio's Community Action Agencies provided Head Start services to 75 percent of the children in that program in Ohio, served 7 million meals to low-income residents and provided direct health care to more than 231,000 patients.

The mission of OCATO is to provide training to the Community Action Agency (CAA) network and other non-profit organizations in Ohio. Since 2001, OCATO has provided the CAA network with critical training opportunities to strengthen the agencies and the local communities. In the past eight months, OCATO has seen an increase in the participation of other non-CAA organizations, in professional training opportunities that it provides. Many of these non-profit agencies are grassroots FBCOs that are in need of training to maintain current services and to grow existing programs. OCATO's motto is *"Growing organizations one result at a time."* It is focused on utilizing collaboration as a keystone to help strengthen the infrastructure of social services in Ohio.